

II. Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A brake system for a linear actuator, comprising:
  - a guide rail;
  - a table including a slider comprised of a slider member which is guided by said guide rail for a motion along a length of said guide rail, said slider member comprising a moveable slide block that is adapted to slide along a surface of said guide rail and is supported by said slider member so as to be moveable toward and away from said guide rail surface;
  - a linear motor for actuating said table along said guide rail; and
  - a power actuator for selectively moving said moveable slide block toward said guide rail surface;

said moveable slide block sliding over said guide rail surface for a guiding action in a first state of said power actuator and bearing upon said guide rail surface for a braking action in a second state of said power actuator;

wherein said guide rail is provided with an upper surface and a pair of side surfaces each forming an acute angle with respect to said upper surface, and said slider member is provided with a bottom surface engaging said upper surface, a fixed slide block engaging one of said side surfaces while said moveable slide block engaging the other of said side surfaces.
2. (Withdrawn) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim 1, wherein said power actuator comprises a solenoid device for moving said slide block toward said

guide rail surface when energized and a spring member for moving said slide block away from said guide rail surface when said solenoid device deenergized.

3. (Original) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim 1, wherein said power actuator comprises a solenoid device for moving said slide block away from said guide rail surface when energized and a spring member for moving said slide block toward said guide rail surface when said solenoid device deenergized.

4. (Currently Amended) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim 1, wherein ~~said guide rail comprises a pair of mutually parallel guide rail members is a first guide rail and said brake system further comprises a second guide rail extending in parallel with said first guide rail, and said slider comprises a pair of laterally arranged slider members in a corresponding manner.~~

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim [[5]] 4, wherein ~~the other of said slider members~~ member corresponding to said second guide rail is provided with a bottom surface engaging said upper surface, a pair of fixed slide blocks engaging the corresponding side surfaces of said guide rail.

7. (Currently Amended) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim 6, wherein said slider members are dimensioned in such a manner that when said

power actuator is in said second state, said moveable slide block of one of said slider members member corresponding to the first guide rail and one of the fixed slide blocks of said other slider member which is located in a symmetric position to said moveable slide block bear upon the corresponding side surfaces of said guide rail.

8. (Original) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim 1, wherein a bearing member is interposed between said slide block and guide rail surface.

9. (Original) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim 8, wherein said bearing member has a static frictional coefficient in the range of 0.15 to 0.25 with respect to the opposing surface.

10. (Original) A brake system for a linear actuator according to claim 8, wherein said bearing member comprises a porous carbon material prepared by sintering a mixture of plant-base carbon and phenol resin.